

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

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#74-7510



June 17, 1975

TO: Academic Deans, Deans, and Chairpersons
of Schools of Education

FROM: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary *PL*

SUBJECT: Procedures for Commission Approval of
Fifth Year Programs

At its meeting on May 2, 1975, the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing adopted procedures applicable to teacher preparation institutions seeking approval for (Ryan Act) Fifth Year Programs. In adopting these procedures, the Commission has defined the parameters for the approval process by calling attention to the language of Section 5932 of Title 5 of the California Administrative Code (see attached) as being the position of the Commission.

Institutions, seeking approval to recommend the completion of the required fifth year for individual credential candidates, should adhere to the intent of the Commission as expressed in Section 5932. In addition, the Commission asks that the following considerations also be addressed in each institutional application:

1. That the procedure for validating the completion of the required unit of health education (Education Code, Sections 13131 and 13132.5) be briefly described.
2. That a description of the procedure that the institution will use for out-of-state candidates be included.
3. That a brief description of the institutional appeal process applicable to credential candidates be set forth in the application.

It is hoped that those institutions seeking approval will develop procedures which are devoid of excessive detail, yet are comprehensive and which allow wide flexibility for credential candidates.

The Commission is particularly interested that candidates receive effective advising and counseling regarding the options available within the fifth year, including the option of meeting the requirements for Education Code, Sections 13344, 13344.1, and 13344.2 (see attached).

Section 5932, Title 5, California Administrative Code.
Fifth Year of Study. The Commission finds that the fifth year of study is an integral element of the teacher education program, and provides the potential teacher with much greater opportunity following completion of the relatively rigid course requirements of the baccalaureate degree program to select a course or program of study designed to improve the teacher's competence and skills, and which is more suited to the candidate's particular professional interests. In recognition of these facts, the Commission expects that the design of the fifth year course of study will be a large responsibility of the teacher-candidate in cooperation and consultation with the accredited college or university.

The teacher candidate may select either a student-designed fifth year of study approved by the institution or an institution-designed fifth year of study. The fifth year of study selected by the teacher-candidate shall be a Commission-approved program, and shall be a full academic year, or its equivalent, at the postgraduate level taken at an accredited college or university.

In furtherance of the foregoing concepts, the Commission shall permit a wide latitude for fifth year programs, including, but not limited to, the following purposes:

- (a) Additional subject matter preparation including, but not limited to, pursuit of a master's or higher degree.
- (b) Completion of an approved program for an advanced or specialized credential.
- (c) Study undertaken for in-service training for which college or university credit is given.
- (d) Study undertaken to complete an approved program of professional preparation.

EDUCATION CODE

In-Service Preparation in Ethnic Backgrounds

13344. On and after July 1, 1974, each school with a substantial population of students of diverse ethnic backgrounds shall provide an in-service preparation program designed to prepare teachers and other professional school service personnel to understand and effectively relate to the history, culture, and current problems of these students and their environment. For purposes of this article a school shall be considered to have a substantial population of students of diverse ethnic backgrounds where 25 percent or more of all the students in the school are of diverse ethnic background.

Approved Courses

13344.1. The Department of Education shall develop a list of approved courses which shall be considered acceptable for meeting the requirements of this article. The department shall cause a list of approved courses to be published and distributed to interested teachers, administrators, and governing boards of school districts. The department shall be responsible for coordinating the efforts of school districts and colleges to develop adequate course offerings to satisfy the requirements of this article.

Content of In-Service Programs

13344.2. In-service programs designed to fulfill the requirements of this article may include, but need not be limited to, courses offered by community colleges and colleges and universities approved by the State Board of Education. A district may provide an in-service program consisting in whole or in part of preparation other than college courses.

Such a program shall be developed cooperatively with the Department of Education and shall have prior approval of the Department of Education. An in-service program which meets the intent of this article shall encompass the history, culture, and current problems of the students of diverse ethnic background.

All college courses approved by the Department of Education for the purposes of this article shall be considered acceptable for salary credit purposes by any school district. District in-service programs shall specify an amount of equivalent credit which shall be acceptable for salary credit purposes in the school district providing the in-service program.